UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/128
17 February 1998
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC/ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 17 FEBRUARY 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I should like to call the attention of the Security Council to the fact that, in testimony to the British House of Commons on 10 February 1998, His Excellency Mr. Robin Cook, Foreign Secretary of the United Kingdom, stressed that Libya possesses no chemical or biological weapons. The Foreign Secretary was answering a question from a Mr. Flight, a Member of the House of Commons. The exchange was as follows:

> Mr. Flight: What information, if any, does the Foreign Secretary have on the production of biological and chemical weapons in other parts of the Near East? I am thinking in particular of Syria and Libya, which are a factor in the stability of the area and the peace treaty.
>
> Mr. Cook: I am not aware of such production in Syria. Libya, as the Hon. Gentleman knows, is also subject to very tight sanctions, one of the aims of which is to ensure that there is no possibility of that country developing any chemical or biological weapons.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abuzed Omar DORDA
Permanent Representative

98-03571 (E) 170298 170298